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Letter dated 31 October 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the written statement of the delegation of the Argentine Republic in exercise of the right of reply to the letter dated 28 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran (A/62/485 and annex) referring to the remarks made by President Nestor Kirchner on 25 September 2007, at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly (see annex).

It would be highly appreciated if you could have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 8.

(*Signed*) Jorge **Argüello**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 31 October 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

On 28 September 2007, the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in exercise of the right of reply to the remarks made by the President of the Nation, Nestor Kirchner, on 25 September last, at the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, requested that a letter and a statement dated 15 October 2007 be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 8 (A/62/485 and annex).

The Government of the Argentine Republic rejects the unfounded and offensive remarks made in that statement against its institutions and against President Nestor Kirchner.

In his address to the General Assembly, the President recalled that the Argentine Republic had repeatedly condemned the serious threat of global terrorism, as he considers terrorist acts to be criminal and unjustifiable. He also recalled that all States in the international community and, in particular, in the United Nations, must work together to prevent and eliminate this scourge.

Accordingly, on behalf of the Argentine Republic, the President of the Nation reiterated his request for the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the framework of applicable international law, to cooperate effectively with the Argentine courts in order to clarify the facts in the AMIA (Argentine-Israelite Mutual Association) case, in connection with the blowing-up in 1994 of the headquarters of that institution in the city of Buenos Aires, in which 85 people lost their lives.

In that regard, President Nestor Kirchner appealed to the Islamic Republic of Iran to process the judicial request, for the sole purpose of clarifying the facts and judging those responsible, out of respect for the memory of the victims.

In the aforementioned proceedings, an arrest warrant has been issued against several Iranian citizens and one Lebanese citizen who were involved. Likewise, both the Secretary General and the Executive Committee of INTERPOL unanimously decided to issue the arrest warrants (known as "red notices") for those citizens. The final decision will be submitted to the INTERPOL General Assembly, to be held in Morocco from 5 to 8 November 2007, so that the decision of the Executive Committee may be ratified by the Assembly.